

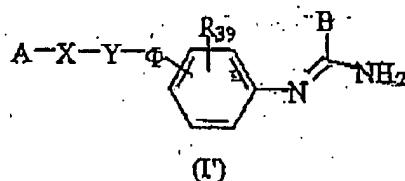
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In the Claims:

Claims 1 to 13 (cancelled).

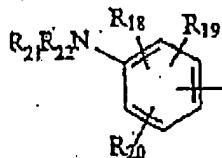
Claim 14 (currently amended)

A compound of the formula (I')



wherein

A is



R<sub>18</sub>, R<sub>19</sub> and R<sub>20</sub> are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, -OH, alkyl or alkoxy of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, R<sub>21</sub> and R<sub>22</sub> are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, or R<sub>21</sub> and R<sub>22</sub> form together with the nitrogen atom an optionally substituted heterocycle having 4 to 7 members and 1 to 3 heteroatoms including the already present nitrogen atom, the additional heteroatoms being independently selected from the group consisting of O, N or

furthermore  $R_{21}$  is selected from the group consisting of alkylsulfonyl, alkylsulfoxide and alkylcarbonyl and then  $R_{22}$  is hydrogen,

$B$  is thiophenyl,

$X$  is selected from the group consisting of a bond or  $-CO-NR_{36}-$ ,

$Y$  is selected from the group consisting of a bond,  $-(CH_2)_n-$ ,  $-(CH_2)_r-Q-(CH_2)_s-$  and thiazolidine,

$Q$  is selected from the group consisting of piperazine, homopiperazine, 2-methylpiperazine, 2,5-dimethylpiperazine, piperidine, 1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridine, pyrrolidine, azetidine, thiazolidine and a saturated carbon ring having 3 to 7 members,

$\Phi$  is  $-(CH_2)_p-NR_{37}- (CH_2)_q-$ ,

$R_{36}$  and  $R_{37}$  are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms and  $-CO-R_{38}$ ,  $R_{38}$  is alkyl or alkoxy of 1 to 6 carbon atoms,

$R_{39}$  is hydrogen,

$m$ ,  $n$ ,  $p$ ,  $q$ ,  $r$  and  $s$  are independently integers from 0 to 6,

and its pharmaceutically acceptable salts.

**Claims 15 to 19 (cancelled).**

**Claim 20 (previously presented)** A compound of claim 14 selected from the group consisting of

- 2-amino-N-(4-{[amino(2-thienyl)methylidene]amino}phenethyl)-5-methoxybenzamide;
- 5-amino-N-(4-{[amino(2-thienyl)methylidene]amino}phenethyl)-2-hydroxybenzamide;
- 4-(4-{[amino(2-thienyl)methylidene]amino}phenyl)-N-{4-[(methylsulphonyl)amino]phenyl}butanamide;
- 4-(4-{[amino(2-thienyl)methylidene]amino}phenyl)-N-[4-(dimethylamino)phenyl]butanamide;
- 5-(4-{[amino(2-thienyl)methylidene]amino}phenyl)-N-[4-(dimethylamino)phenyl]pentanamide;
- (4*R*)-2-(3-{[amino(2-thienyl)methylidene]amino}-phenyl)-N-[4-(dimethylamino)phenyl]-1,3-thiazolidine-4-carboxamide;
- *tert*-butyl 3-{[amino(2-thienyl)methylidene]amino}benzyl{3-[4-(dimethylamino)anilino]-3-oxopropyl}carbamate;
- 3-{[3-{[amino(2-thienyl)methylidene]amino}-benzyl]amino}-N-[4-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)phenyl]propanamide;
- 3-{[3-{[amino(2-thienyl)methylidene]amino}-benzyl]amino}-N-[4-(4-morpholinyl)phenyl]propanamide;
- N-[4-(2-{[5-(dimethylamino)-2-hydroxybenzyl]amino}cyclohexyl)phenyl]-2-thiophenecarboximidamide;
- N-(4-{[(4-{[amino(2-thienyl)methylidene]amino}phenethyl)-amino]methyl}phenyl)acetamide;

- N'-{4-[2-({[5-(dimethylamino)2-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzyl]amino}-ethyl)phenyl]-2-thiophenecarboximidamide; - N'-{4-[2-({[4-(dimethylamino)anilino]carbonyl}amino)-ethyl]phenyl}-2-thiophenecarboximidamide; - N'-{4-[2-({[5-(dimethylamino)2-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzyl]- (methyl)amino]ethyl}phenyl)-2-thiophenecarboximidamide; and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts of the latter.

**Claim 21** (withdrawn) A method of inhibiting NO synthase in a patient in need thereof comprising administering to said patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 14.

**Claim 22** (withdrawn) A method of inhibiting lipidic peroxidation in a patient in need thereof comprising administrating to said patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 14.

**Claim 23** (cancelled).

**Claim 24** (withdrawn) A method of treating a neurodegenerative disease in a patient in need thereof comprising administrating to said patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 14.

**Claim 25** (withdrawn) The method of claim 24 wherein the neuorodegenerative disease is selected from the group consisting of Alzheimer's disease,

Huntington's chorea, Parkinson's disease, Creutzfeld Jacob disease and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.